

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

DECEMBER 15, 2015

Proclaiming Homeless Count Week in Los Angeles County

From January 26, 2016 through January 28, 2016, thousands of volunteers will partner with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to conduct the 2016 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count (Count) that has occurred every two years since 2005.

While it is federally-mandated that a count takes place every two years, the purpose and benefits of conducting the Count have impacts beyond the mere satisfaction of a requirement. The data gathered in January will be extremely valuable to efforts to reduce and end homelessness across Los Angeles County. In particular, it will help service providers, policy makers, local governments, elected officials and other stakeholders understand the geographic and demographic diversity of homelessness so that the types of services and housing provided are responsive to the need.

In addition, collecting this data provides an opportunity to track changes in the numbers and characteristics of the homeless population over time and to monitor progress towards ending homelessness. It is important that every effort be made to support this process and encourage volunteer participation in this important endeavor.

- MORE -

MOTION

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

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I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Proclaim the week beginning January 25, 2016 as Homeless Count Week;
and
2. Direct the Chief Executive Officer to work with the Executive Directors of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, Community Development Commission, and Office of Child Protection; the Directors of the Departments of Public Social Services, Child Support Services, Mental Health, Health Services, Public Health, Parks and Recreation, Human Resources, Children and Family Services, Public Works, and Community and Senior Services; the County Librarian; the Chief Information Officer; the Chief Probation Officer; the Superintendent of the Los Angeles County Office of Education and the Sheriff to ensure support for the 2016 Homeless Count and encourage Los Angeles County staff to volunteer.

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